

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

BOARDS OF TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF MENDON,

INCLUDING REPORT OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

FOR THE

MUNICIPAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 2, 1891.

MILFORD, MASS.

DAILY JOURNAL PRINTING HOUSE.

1891.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The undersigned, Treasurer of the Town of Mendon, for the year ending March 2nd, 1891, respectfully submits the account of his doings.

He debits himself with the following assets, viz. :

Received of Edward L. Smith for use of town hall.....		\$72 50
Received of Austin A. Taft on notes.....		3000 00
“ of Julius A. George “		500 00
“ of G. B. Williams, for use of telephone		20 45
“ of G. B. Williams, tree damage and cost.....		50 00
“ of S. B. Taft, auctioneer's license		2 00
“ of S. W. Cook “		2 00
“ of John C. Wood, license for alley		2 00
“ of Liberty Freeman, Collector for 1889.....		160 11
“ of Liberty Freeman, Collector for 1890.....		7016 67
“ of State Treasurer, as follows :		
Corporation tax.....	\$402 53	
National Bank tax.....	509 48	
Military Aid, chap. 279.....	36 00	
“ “ chap. 301.....	516 00—	1464 01
“ of State Treasurer, School Fund		207 74
“ of Frank H. Wood, for posts....		2 00
“ of Julius A. George, administrator, for hay scales.....		37 23
“ of County Treasurer, dog fund...		172 65
“ of A. W. Gaskill, old plank.....		3 00
“ of Edward Dixon, balance.....		101 88
		<hr/>
		\$12,814 24

He credits himself with the following sums :

Paid 113 Town Orders.....	\$7598 30
“ Julius A. George, note and interest...	506 00
“ Ann Quigley, bond and interest.....	525 00
“ Austin A. Taft, notes and interest....	3081 75
“ State Tax.....	507 50
“ Balance due Treasurer for 1889.....	77 05
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	\$12,295 60
Cash to Balance.....	518 64
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	\$12,814 24

AUSTIN A. TAFT, Treasurer.

Mendon, Feb. 14th, 1891.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen respectfully submit the following report of the expenditures of the town for the municipal year ending March 2, 1891 :

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Wood & Nye, returning 16 deaths, 1888 and 1889.....	\$4 00
“ “ 9 “ 1890 and 1891.....	2 25
N. G. Daniels, rent of room for extinguisher to Nov. 1, 1889.....	3 00
L. D. Chipman, rent of room and care of extinguisher to Jan. 1, 1891.....	18 00
E. F. Wood, labor on extinguisher.....	2 40
G. B. Williams, cash paid for repairs of extinguisher..	9 85
“ “ “ “ supplies for “ ..	8 40
Charles H. Allen, services as fire ward at Wilcox fire..	2 00
G. B. Williams, cash paid expenses committee on ventilation, to Lynn	12 97
G. B. Williams, reward offered and damages paid owners, tree cases.....	50 00
G. B. Williams, use of telephone.....	60 00
Waterman Taft, sawing wood, etc., for town officers' rooms	3 52
C. A. Fletcher, labor on Old Cemetery, balance of account.....	4 20
Stephen Cook, material for road repairs.....	20 00
Dr. J. M. French, returning 3 births.....	0 75
H. C. Adams, agent, renewal of insurance on hall and five school houses, etc	10 72
E. L. Smith, special services, July 4, 1890.....	2 00
E. L. Smith, cash paid express on supplies for extinguisher	0 50
H. C. Adams, cash paid express, etc.	5 13
G. B. Williams, cash paid for sundries.....	3 85
A. V. G. Pond, labor on extinguisher.....	1 00
“ one foot chestnut wood for extinguisher	0 44

\$224 98

CARE AND SUPPLIES FOR TOWN HALL.

E. L. Smith, care of hall to April 1, 1890.....	\$55 00
E. L. Smith, sundries for hall to April 1, 1890.....	17 50
L. A. Cook, coal for hall.....	15 82
James H. Magee, plastering.....	8 45
Weed Bros. & Lent, window ventilators.....	2 60
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	\$99 37

SERVICES OF TOWN OFFICERS.

Gilbert Gaskill, lockup keeper to April 1, 1890.....	5 00
A. W. Gaskill, assessing taxes of 1890.....	40 75
W. S. Wilcox.....	40 00
Alanson Freeman.....	40 00
“ services as inspector, state election..	2 50
F. C. Wood, “ “ “ “ ..	2 50
Liberty Freeman, services as collector of taxes of 1889	65 00
E. Dixon, services as supervisor of schools, 1889-1890,	
balance.....	25 00
E. Dixon, services as school committee, visiting and	
examinations, 1890-1891.....	27 50
E. Dixon, services as treasurer of school committee,	
1890-1891.....	10 00
E. Dixon, services as school book agent.....	30 00
Lyman Cook, visiting schools.....	20 00
E. L. Smith, services as constable to March 2, 1891...	15 00
H. C. Adams, services as town clerk and registrar.....	24 40
Austin A. Taft, services as treasurer, 1890-1891.....	35 00
L. Freeman, services as selectman and registrar.....	31 50
A. W. Gaskill, “ “ “ ..	46 52
G. B. Williams, “ “ “ ..	49 75
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	\$510 42

MILITARY AID, CHAPTER 279, ACTS OF 1889.

John Oakford..	\$72 00
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SOLDIERS' RELIEF, CHAPTER 447, ACTS OF 1890.

Abel G. Weatherhead.....	\$42 00
Sylvia Henry.....	48 95
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	\$90 75

STATE AID TO PENSIONERS, CHAPTER 301,
ACTS OF 1889.

John Curley.....	\$72 00
James McKenna.....	48 00
Rufus Hazard.....	48 00
Catherine Foley.....	24 00
Abel G. Weatherhead.....	120 00
George W. Scisco.....	48 00
David A. Kingman.....	72 00
Waterman Taft.....	48 00
Dexter Inman.....	72 00
Caleb V. Smith.....	48 00
Sidney W. Goodell.....	36 00
Jason G. Cummings.....	36 00
	<hr/>
	\$672 00

PRINTING.

G. M. Billings, town reports of 1890.....	45 00
F. E. Day, for collector.....	2 50
Cook & Sons, dog notices.....	2 50
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	\$50 00

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

The town refusing to choose Road Commissioners, the Selectmen, as required by Chapter 98 of the Acts of 1889, appointed Mr. F. H. Wood superintendent of streets, fixing his compensation at 25 cents per hour of actual service.

His work has been done "under the direction of the Selectmen," and to their entire satisfaction. Attention is called to his report, following.

We believe the time will come when our principal roads must be macadamized, and that the work cannot be begun too soon.

Payments on account of roads and bridges have been made as follows, viz :

J. C. Wood, old bill.....	\$4 60
C. H. Howe, surveyor, old bill.....	2 60
Town of Bellingham, for re-covering one-half of Charles River bridge.....	6 41
F. H. Wood, superintendent, as reported below, 16 orders.....	1804 97
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	\$1818 58

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS, SCHOOL BOOKS,
INCIDENTALS, AND APPARATUS.

Paid School Committee 11 orders..... \$3025 00

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid Overseers of Poor, 12 orders..... \$880 00

THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Paid Trustees, 4 orders,, \$155 00

RECAPITULATION.

Incidentals.....	\$224 98
Town Hall.....	99 37
Services of town officers.....	510 42
Printing.....	50 00
State aid to pensioners, Chap. 301.....	672 00
State Military aid, Chap. 279.....	72 00
Soldiers' relief, Chap.s. 447, 1890, and 298, 1889.....	90 95
Roads.....	1818 58
Schools.....	3025 00
Poor.....	880 00
Library.....	155 00
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	\$7598 30

The Selectmen also report that the available assets of the town, known to them, are as follows:—

Due from Collector, list of 1890.....	\$226 19
Due from State, aid to soldiers, Chap. 301, to Jan. 1, 1891, 12 months.....	658 00
Due from State, aid to soldiers, Chap. 301, to March 1, 1891, 2 months.....	114 00
Due from State, aid to soldiers, Chap. 279, to Jan. 1, 1891, 12 months.....	36 00
Due from State, aid to soldiers, Chap. 279, to March 1, 1891, 2 months.....	6 00
Cash in hands of Treasurer.....	\$518 64—\$1558 83

The liabilities of the town, so far as known, are as follows:—

Outstanding bills, estimated.....	\$75 00
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Due town officers.....	75 00	
Due High School Teacher, at close of term	90 00—	\$240 00
Net balance in favor of the town.....		\$1318 83

Respectfully submitted,

G. B. WILLIAMS,	} Selectmen of Mendon.
A. W. GASKILL,	
L FREEMAN,	

Mendon, Feb. 14, 1881.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1890.

Schools	\$1600 00
Poor.....	800 00
Roads.....	1500 00
Milford Road.....	300 00
Incidentals	300 00
Library	225 00
School Books.....	200 00
School Incidentals.....	300 00
School Apparatus.....	100 00
Interest.....	100 00
Debt.....	500 00
School Outhouses.....	150 00
Ventilation.....	400 00

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

LIBERTY FREEMAN, COLLECTOR FOR 1889.

DR.

Balance uncollected, Feb. 10, 1890.....	\$155 38	
Interest received.....	10 73	
	<u> </u>	\$166 11

CR.

By cash paid treasurer.....	160 11	
Abatements.....	6 00	
	<u> </u>	\$166 11

LIBERTY FREEMAN, COLLECTOR FOR 1890.

DR.

Taxes committed for collection.....	\$7,638 34	
Additional assessment.....	2 00	
Interest received.....	44 24	
	<u> </u>	\$7,684 58

CR.

By cash paid treasurer.....	\$7,016,67	
Paid County tax.....	415 00	
Abatements.....	26 72	
	<u> </u>	\$7,458 39
Balance uncollected Feb. 14, 1891.....		<u> </u> \$226 19

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF POOR.

The Overseers of Poor submit the following report for the municipal year ending March 2, 1891 :

John W. Barry, Mary C. Taft, Edna Allen, Janie Briggs, Jennie Davenport, Cora M. Gould and family, George H. Wood, Francis H. Scisco, Sally Mellen, Christina Taft, (having a settlement in Mendon), Sophia Taft and two children, (having a settlement in Northbridge), Catherine P. Fostream, (belonging to Boston), Jason G. Cummings and Joseph H. Wood, (to Uxbridge), have been wholly or partially supported.

The Overseers charge themselves with the receipt of the following named funds belonging to the town :—

Balance from last year.....	\$3 43
Twelve town orders.....	880 00
Town of Milford.....	8 87
Town of Blackstone.....	3 43
Town of Uxbridge.....	45 00
City of Boston.....	40 65
	————— \$981 38

The Overseers credit themselves with paying the following amounts :—

FOR SUPPORT OF	
John W. Barry.....	\$169 46
Mary C. Taft.....	85 00
Edna Allen.....	104 00
Janie Briggs.....	31 00
Jennie Davenport.....	72 00
Cora M. Gould and family.....	100 00
George H. Wood.....	109 50
Francis K. Scisco.....	24 00
Sally Mellen.....	15 00
Sophia Taft and two children.....	65 21
Christina Taft.....	23 00
Catherine P. Fostream.....	40 65
Jason G. Cummings....	16 00
Joseph H. Wood.....	10 00
Gilbert Gaskill, care of 400 tramps.....	60 00
“ “ for tramp house, sundries..	1 05
A. W Gaskill wood for tramp house.....	6 88
Henry W Gaskill, services, Overseer of Poor	6 00
Gilbert Gaskill, “ “ “	6 00
Liberty Freeman, “ “ “	35 00
“ “ postage stamps.....	1 42

Cash on hand to balance.....	21	
	<hr/>	\$981 38
From the whole amount paid for support of poor		\$981 17
Deduct what was due for the support of pau- pers to March 3, 1890.....	\$80 84	
What has been paid out for Northbridge...	65 21	
“ “ “ “ Boston.....	40 65	
“ “ “ “ Uxbridge.....	26 00	
	<hr/>	\$212 70
		<hr/>
		\$768 47
Add what will be due for support of pau- pers to March 2, 1891.....		\$72 04
		<hr/>
Cost of supporting the poor for the year end- ing March 2, 1891.....		\$840 51
Due from Northbridge, \$65.21 : Uxbridge, \$12.50.		

Respectfully submitted,

LIBERTY FREEMAN,	} Overseers of Poor.
GILBERT GASKILL,	
HENRY W. GASKILL,	

Mendon, Feb. 17, 1891.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS.

The Superintendent respectfully submits the following report for the year ending March 2, 1891 :—

General appropriation.....	\$1500
Special appropriation.....	300
The superintendent debits himself to sixteen town orders.....	\$1,804 97
He credits himself by paying the following bills :	

C. B. Williams. for labor.....	\$321 30
J. H. Stenson, "	105 52
G. A. Staples "	124 05
O. W. Hill, "	104 80
John Broughey, "	72 90
Martin Grady, "	54 15
E. T. Bates, "	21 87
S. Brooks, "	41 40
G. B. Cromb, "	24 40
James Broughey, "	3 00
L. P. Cummings, "	78 00
George Ford, "	4 50
George Wilbur, "	38 70
Thomas Lapham, "	2 95
Frank H. Wood, as superintendent.....	218 65
Frank H. Wood, team and man furnished..	328 22
Frank H. Wood, cash paid as per bills.....	25 09
A. W. Gaskill, labor, gravel and scraper blade.....	46 20
A. W. Gaskill, sleepers, rails and plank....	67 36
Edward Dudley, for gravel.....	27 70
S. B. Taft, for posts.....	14 96
S. V. Crane, for plank.....	20 00
D. W. Gaskill, for plank.....	20 00
John Barry, for repairs.....	10 70
Gilbert Gaskill, for gravel.....	9 20
Clark Ellis & Sons, for supplies.....	19 35

————— \$1,804 97

Amount expended on Milford road, \$440.11 ; team work, \$523.30.

FRANK H. WOOD, Supt. of Streets.

Mendon, Feb. 12, 1891.

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK.

DOGS REGISTERED IN 1890.

78 Male dogs.....	\$156 00	
12 Female dogs.....	60 00—	\$216 00
Registration fees.....		18 00
Balance paid County Treasurer.....		<u>\$198 00</u>

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN 1890.

Date of Birth. 1889. 1890.	Name of Child.	Name of Parents.
July 31, 1890.	Mabel Pearson.	Irving E. and Jennie E. Pearson.
Jan. 31,	Ann Eliza Everton.	Samuel E. and Mary S. Everton
Feb. 9.	Katherine Agnes Harrington	Michael and Mary J. Harrington.
Feb. 10.	Mabel Rosalie Harris.	George W. and Carrie A. Harris.
Mar. 30.	George Carlton Daniels.	Leon and Mary M. Daniels
May 30.	Charles Vincent Driscoll.	Florence and Margaret E. Driscoll
June 5.	Horace Adams Chipman.	Lewis D. and Jennie Chipman.
June 8.	Clara Elizabeth Barrows.	Frank E. and Ellen E. Barrows.
June 23.	Charles William Libbey.	William F. and Amelia J. Libbey.
June 28.	Caroline Elizabeth Brooks	Samuel and Selina Brooks.
Aug. 10.	Nina Marion Burr.	H. Melvin and Cora E. Burr.
Aug. 28.	Florence Joanna Aldrich.	Frank M. and Florence H. Aldrich.
Sept. 29.	Herbert Stoddard Wood.	Frank H. and Sarah J. Wood
Sept. 30.	Cecil Augustus Rockwood	Jotham C. and Estella C. Rockwood.
Oct. 26.	Mary Aldrich Congdon	Albert J. and Annie A. Congdon
Nov. 9.	Mary Ann Gabry.	George and Elizabeth Gabry.
Dec. 4.	William Andrew Curliss.	Henry F. Sisco and Amelia M. Curliss.
Dec. 11.	Daniel Hill Bates.	Erwin A. and Jennie Bates
Dec. 16.	George Ezra Worthen.	George W. and Effie E. Worthen.
Dec. 18.	Florence Pearson.	Irving E. and Jennie E. Pearson

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN 1890.

Date.	Name of Groom and Bride	Residence of each.
Feb. 12, 1890.	George E. Thayer.	Bellingham.
"	Minnie F. Bicknell.	Mendon.
Mar. 26, "	Willie J. Bullard	Milford
"	Clara Monger.	Mendon.
April 2, "	George W. Jennison.	Mendon.
"	Anna R. H. Staples.	Hopedale.
June 4, "	George M. Taft.	Mendon.
"	Emma A. Moore.	Mendon.
Sept. 3, "	Elton O. Clark.	Hopedale.
"	Bessie W. Wilcox.	Mendon.
Oct. 28, "	Fred S. Wilcox.	Milford.
"	Minnie M. Barrows.	Mendon.

Nov. 14, 1890.	Israel Richardson.	Mendon.
	Laura Williams.	Mendon.
Dec. 23, "	Stephen H. Sisco.	Mendon.
	Mary Adkins.	Mendon.

DEATHS REGISTERED IN 1890.

Date.	Name.	Yrs	Ms.	Days.	Residence.
Feb. 2	Michael A. Monahan.	20	7	21	Hopkinton.
Feb. 7	Bertha A. Weatherhead.	7	10	2	Mendon.
Feb. 15	Perry Wood.	76	3	13	Mendon.
Mar. 1	Mary Jane C. Briggs.	47	0	0	Mendon.
April 8	Davis Bills.	85	0	0	Mendon.
Aug 14	Harriet H. Young.	72	7	17	Mendon.
Aug. 25	Ada J. Cook.	37	1	25	Mendon.
Sept. 4	Louanna Smith.	89	5	4	Mendon.
Sept. 30	Mary Hall.	62	0	0	Mendon.
Oct. 7	Elsie M. Ellis.	78	0	0	Mendon.
Oct. 10	Robert Hall.	63	0	0	Mendon.
Oct. 23	Julia R. Newhall.	61	5	9	Mendon.
Nov. 14	William H. Aldrich.	65	0	0	Mendon.
Nov. 17	Sylvia C. Henry.	43	10	0	Mendon.
Nov. 27	Timothy F. Quigley.	30	0	0	Mendon.
Dec. 24	Mary A. Daniels.	79	11	14	Mendon.

HORACE C. ADAMS, Town Clerk.

Mendon, Feb. 14, 1891.

TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The report of the Librarian, and that of the Treasurer of the Trustees, which are submitted in connection herewith, furnish nearly all the information which the Trustees have to convey to the Town at the present time

The new catalogue which it was expected would be issued during the past year, has not, owing to several unforeseen occurrences, been completed yet, but a system of cataloguing has been agreed upon, and the work is well under way. The catalogues will probably be ready early in the year.

The trustees extend the thanks of the citizens to all who have made donations to the Library during the past year. The books were examined on February 10th current, and found accounted for, and in satisfactory condition. The Library was re-opened Feb. 14th. We take pleasure in reporting that Miss Williams, the efficient and satisfactory Librarian of the past year, has been engaged for the ensuing year.

By reference to the report of the Treasurer of this Board, it will be seen that of the two hundred and twenty-five dollars appropriated at the last annual meeting, for the use of the Library, only one hundred and fifty-five dollars have been drawn. We recommend an appropriation of two hundred and twenty-five dollars for the use of the Library the ensuing year.

JULIUS A. GEORGE,	} Trustees
HORACE C. ADAMS.	
G. B. WILLAMS,	
	} Taft Public
	} Library.

Mendon, Feb. 14th, 1891.

LIBRARIAN'S TENTH ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The Library was re-opened for the delivery of books, February 14

3586 books have been given out during the year—285 less than last year.

The greatest number delivered on any one Saturday was 104 ; the smallest number, 50 : the average number, 71.

The delivery by divisions was as follows : Agriculture, 8 ; Biography, 86 ; History, 217 ; Travel, 118 ; Educational, 33 ; Miscellaneous, 62 ; Poetry, 52 ; Novels, 2716 ; Periodicals, 394.

The library has been increased by 162 volumes the past year, making a total of 2851.

The town purchased 82 books ; 80 were given. Rev. Carlton A. Staples made the large donation of 44 books—6 years of the Century and other magazines and pamphlets.

Rev. Chas. J. Staples presented 19 books ; Robert Shippen, 2 ; Henry E. Staples, 1 ; Nahor Staples, 1 ; Secretary of Commonwealth, 6 ; W. G. Veazey, 1 ; Department of Interior, 2 ; M. L. Judd, 2 ; E. B. Crane, 1 ; Mayor of Charlestown, 1.

J. A. George has given the Harper's Magazine for 1889 ; Wendel Williams the Outing for 1887 ; Edith Bennett the Wide Awake for 1889-90. Several other pamphlets have also come from different persons.

A large number of books were bound or rebound in the Spring. Among them were the Mendon School Reports for 1846-1889, collected and given to the Library by Rev. Geo. F. Clark. and Mendon Town Reports 1858-1889, collected by the Selectmen.

All books were returned on February 7, excepting four, and those have since been returned.

LENA WILLIAMS,

Librarian.

Mendon, Feb. 9, 1891.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Taft Public Library for the year ending Feb. 10, 1891 :—

DR.

To cash on hand.....	\$0 44
“ received on 4 orders of Selectmen.....	155 00
“ “ G. B. Williams, for binding books....	1 20
“ “ Lena Williams, cards, fines, etc.....	10 06
	<hr/>
	\$166 70

CR.

By cash paid C. V. A. Smith, for labor.....	\$1 50
“ “ A. A. Taft, for wood.....	3 50
“ “ G. B. Williams, books and paper.....	8 20
“ “ W. B. Clarke & Co., books and binding..	82 37
“ “ De Wolfe, Fisk & Co., books.....	10 74
“ “ H. J. Dearing, screens.....	2 70
“ “ Cook & Sons, labels....	1 25
“ “ Lena Williams, expressage and supplies..	5 07
“ “ Lena Williams, salary for 1890.....	50 00
“ “ R. C. Eldridge, book.....	0 75
“ on hand.....	0 62
	<hr/>
	\$166 70

Respectfully submitted,

HORACE C. ADAMS, Treasurer.

Mendon, Feb. 13, 1890.

Examined, found correct, and with proper vouchers.

G. B. WILLIAMS, }
 JULIUS A. GEORGE, } Auditors.

Mendon, Feb. 14, 1891.

R E P O R T

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF MENDON,

FOR THE

SCHOOL YEAR 1890-91.

MILFORD, MASS.

DAILY JOURNAL PRINTING HOUSE.

1891.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

1890-1891.

ORGANIZATION.

FRANK H. WOOD, Chairman	Term expires 1891.
EDWARD DIXON, Secretary	" 1892.
LYMAN COOK	" 1893.

TRUANT OFFICERS.

W. W. NELSON,	CHARLES H. ALLEN,
LYMAN COOK,	JOHN G. BARROWS.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

TO THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF MENDON :

The following report of the School Committee, is respectfully submitted :

The Committee organized March 8, 1890, and assigned the general care of schools and school property to the different members as follows :

West and Albeeville, Frank H. Wood ; South and the East, Lyman Cook ; Center (except High) and the North, Edward Dixon.

The High School has been under the general superintendence of the full board. Edward Dixon was re-elected Treasurer, and re-appointed school book agent.

A review of the teachers' work will be found in Mr. Cook's report.

The West school was re-opened last spring, and has been in session the full school year. The opening of this school necessitated repairs on, and supplies for, the building, an account of which will be found under "West school."

At the Center, a new out-building has been erected, at a cost of \$269.57. This sum, as will be seen, exceeds the appropriation by \$119.57, but it seemed to be as low as the Committee could get the building put up for.

At the South school a new floor has been laid, at an expense of about \$50, and modern desks, taken from the North and Albeeville rooms, have replaced the old-fashioned plank desks.

The cost of other repairs and supplies will be found in the "Account in Detail."

The Truant Officers have made no report to the School Committee ; so it is presumed they have found nothing to do.

Harper's Geographies have been exchanged for Appleton's, at a cost of about \$40. As almost all the Harper's were old and well-worn, this arrangement virtually gives us the new books for about half-price.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

APPROPRIATIONS.

Support of schools.....	\$1600 00
Incidentals	300 00
Text books and supplies.....	200 00
Outbuilding (Center).....	150 00
Apparatus	100 00

OTHER RECEIPTS.

Income from State school fund.....	207 74
Income from dog tax.....	172 65
Due for out-of-town scholars (1890-91)....	18 66

	<u>\$2749 05</u>	
Excess of appropriations.....	\$174 07	
	<u> </u>	\$2923 12

EXPENDITURES.

Teachers	\$1901 00
Fuel	95 65
Care of rooms.....	65 50
Text books and supplies.....	226 97
Incidentals	297 78
Apparatus.....	66 65
Out-building.....	269 57

 \$2923 12

Support of schools.....	\$2062 15
Resources.....	1999 05

Excess of appropriation.....	\$63 10
Amount due above what was due last year..	12 00

Total excess of appropriation for support of schools.....	\$75 10
The Treasurer charges himself with town orders amounting to.....	\$3025 00

CR.

North school.....	\$285 15	
High school.....	345 00	
Grammar and Primary schools.....	637 50	
South school....	284 00	
East school.....	298 52	
West school.....	268 06	
Albeeville school.....	210 33	
General supplies.....	98 02	
Text books and supplies....	226 97	
Out-building.....	269 57	
Cash paid Town Treasurer.....	101 88	
		<hr/>
		\$3025 00

ACCOUNT IN DETAIL.

NORTH SCHOOL.

Annie W. Gaskill, teaching $2\frac{3}{5}$ weeks.....	\$20 80	
Mary L. Aldrich, " 7 "	56 00	
Ada C. Taft, " 20 "	160 00	
W. W. Nelson, care of fire....	11 00	
" sweeping room, 15 weeks..	3 75	
" use of well.....	3 00	
" 1 cord wood and fitting....	5 60	
" setting glass.....	0 35	
L. A. Cook, 2 tons coal.....	13 50	
A. G. Chilson, labor and supplies.....	3 90	
Kate Hart, cleaning schoolroom.....	2 75	
Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., map.....	3 00	
H. W. Brown, repairing clock.....	1 50	
		<hr/>
		\$285 15

HIGH SCHOOL.

W. L. Ricketts, teaching 18 weeks.....	\$270 00	
F. L. Pattee (o'd bill).....	75 00	
		<hr/>
		\$345 00

CENTRE SCHOOLS—GRAMMAR AND PRIMARY.

Wendel Williams, teaching 10 weeks	\$120 00	
Florence H. Towne " "	80 00	
Eben Williams, " $2\frac{4}{5}$ "	33 60	
W. Edward Dixon, " $7\frac{1}{5}$ "	57 60	
Mary E. Dudley, " 30 "	240 00	

Harry Dixon, care of fires.....	10 00	
“ sweeping, etc.....	8 00	
L. A. Cook, four tons coal.....	27 00	
A. W. Gaskill, one cord wood.....	4 50	
A. T. Dixon, fitting one cord wood.....	1 50	
E. H. Taft, one-half “.....	2 00	
H. Dixon, fitting one-half “.....	75	
Ann Quigley, cleaning schoolrooms.....	3 00	
Boston School Supply Co., supplies.....	6 80	
H. J. Dearing, curtains, fixtures and dusters.....	8 30	
Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., 2 maps.....	6 00	
A. G. Chilson, labor and supplies.....	8 70	
George S. Perry, box of objects.....	4 50	
F. M. Ambrose, Worcester's Unabridged Dictionary.....	7 50	
W. Edward Dixon, setting glass.....	75	
Edward L. Smith, use of well.....	7 00	
	<hr/>	\$637 50

SOUTH SCHOOL.

Bessie W. Wilcox, teaching 12 weeks.....	\$72 00	
“ “ care of room 12 weeks..	2 00	
Mary A. Barrows, teaching 10 weeks.	116 00	
“ “ care of room 10 weeks..	6 00	
Lewis B. Gaskill, one cord wood and fitting Lyman Cook, one cord wood, fitting and kindlings.....	6 00 5 75	
Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., map.....	3 00	
Charles H. Allen, labor, supplies, cash paid	31 95	
A. G. Chilson, “ “.....	5 00	
Z. C. Field, lumber.....	16 53	
Lewis B. Gaskill, 2 chairs.....	1 00	
A. G. Whitcomb, 2 chairs.....	2 20	
Clark Ellis & Sons, supplies.....	16 57	
	<hr/>	\$284 00

EAST SCHOOL.

Lyman Cook, teaching 30 weeks.....	\$240 00	
“ “ care of fire, (old bill).....	3 00	
“ “ “ “ 1890-91.....	3 00	
“ “ 1 ½ cords wood, fitting and kindlings.....	8 80	
Lyman Cook, cash paid for use of well....	2 00	
“ “ labor and supplies.....	3 85	
Boston School Supply Supply Co., arithmet- ical chart.....	6 20	

Boston School Supply Co., feather duster and blocks.....	1 42	
Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., 6 maps.....	18 00	
L. E. Wheeler, use of horse.....	75	
A. G. Whitcomb, teacher's desk.....	11 50	
	<hr/>	\$298 52

WEST SCHOOL.

Nancy C. Wood, teaching 30 weeks.....	\$180 00	
“ “ care of room 30 weeks...	4 00	
Frank H. Wood, one and half cords wood..	7 50	
“ “ fitting one and one-half cords wood	2 62	
“ “ cash paid for cleaning school-room....	2 00	
“ “ labor and supplies.....	15 20	
Boston School Supply Co., blocks, inkstand, Prince's Methods.....	2 50	
Boston School Supply Co., arithmetical ch't	6 20	
“ “ globe.....	6 75	
Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., map and White's Pedagogy.....	3 84	
A. G. Chilson, labor and supplies.....	29 95	
F. M. Ambrose, Worcester's Unabridged Dictionary.....	7 50	
	<hr/>	\$268 06

ALBEEVILLE SCHOOL.

Bertha F. Albee, teaching 30 weeks.	\$180 00	
“ “ care of room, 30 weeks...	4 00	
“ “ cleaning schoolroom.....	3 00	
Frank H. Wood, 1½ cords wood.....	7 50	
“ “ fitting 1½ cords wood.....	2 63	
“ “ cash paid for work on the school-yard	3 05	
A. G. Chilson, labor and supplies.....	3 65	
Boston School Supply Co., box of blocks...	50	
Charles H. Albee, use of well, (2 years)...	6 00	
	<hr/>	\$210 33

SUPPLIES FOR ALL THE SCHOOLS.

Boston School Supply Co., supplies.....	\$14 40	
George S. Perry, brush brooms, dust-pans, brushes, etc.....	17 30	
A. P. Scribner, express.....	10 55	
H. A. Aldrich.....	2 00	

Edward Dixon, labor 2 days.....	3 00	
“ “ fare to Boston, twice.....	4 00	
“ “ taking census, No. & Center	2 00	
“ “ cash paid, labor, express &c.	2 90	
G. M. Billings, printing.....	1 50	
I. O. Rhodes, supplies	2 72	
Harry Dixon, labor and use of horse....	3 00	
Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., 7 maps of Mass.	28 00	
Clark Ellis & Sons, supplies.....	6 65	
	<hr/>	\$98 02

OUT-BUILDING.

Z. C. Field, lumber.....	\$142 59	
Weed Bros. & Lent.....	100 00	
A. G. Chilson, labor and supplies.....	15 73	
A. W. Gaskill, “ “ “	6 75	
L. P. Cummings, labor.....	4 50	
	<hr/>	\$269 57

EDWARD DIXON, Treasurer.

SCHOOL BOOK AGENT'S REPORT.

DR.

To books and supplies purchased :

Harper Bros.....	\$18 47
Geo. S. Perry.....	4 35
Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co.....	43 52
Lee & Shepard.....	13 50
Warren P. Adams.....	2 50
Boston School Supply Co.....	57 92
D. Appleton & Co.....	83 64
E. E. Babb & Co.....	3 07

\$226 97

To book and supplies on hand.....

29 02

\$255 99

CR.

By Books and supplies furnished :

High School.....	\$ 8 00
Grammar School.....	64 24
Primary School.....	40 50
North School.....	32 51
South School.....	11 00
Albeeville School.....	9 20
West School.....	20 48
East School.....	51 80

Small supplies to the different schools.....	11 87	
Books and supplies on hand.....	6 39	
	<hr/>	\$255 99

SUPPLIES ON HAND.

5 Harper's First Readers.....	\$0 80	
5 Harper's Second "	1 25	
5 Eclectic Third "	1 75	
13 " First "	1 95	
1 Dozen Slates.....	0 64	
	<hr/>	\$6 39

EDWARD DIXON. School Book Agent.

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

FELLOW CITIZENS OF MENDON :

In compliance with a duty devolved upon me by the School Committee at a recent meeting, I herewith submit the following report relative to our public schools :

As soon as practicable after the annual election, your Board met and organized for the year by the choice of Frank H. Wood as chairman and Edward Dixon as secretary.

The responsibility for the care of the various school buildings was divided as follows : To Frank H. Wood, the West and Albeeville ; to Edward Dixon, the Center and North buildings ; to Lyman Cook, the South and East buildings.

As the Committee were unable to unite with the School Committee of other towns, and, supervision being compulsory, it finally resulted that the Committee decided to assume the duties of the supervision of their respective districts

The repairs made upon the different buildings during the year, have been such as were needed to keep them in as good condition as possible.

The most expensive repairs have been made at the Center and South. At the former place, substantial out-buildings have been constructed. At the latter place, a new floor and furniture have been provided. A few minor repairs have been made in all the schoolhouses. The blackboards need re-slating in most of our schools. A large amount of blackboard surface at the North schoolhouse, being upon plastering not properly hard finished, ought to be cut out and its place filled with whitewood boards, properly slated. Experience shows that when a plaster blackboard once begins to break down, it cannot be patched up to do any considerable service. It is possible to make a great mistake in economy by trying to put off matters of considerable cost, as in the case of improving our schoolhouses throughout the town.

By request of the Board, I have visited the schools throughout the town. As my acquaintance with many of the schools dates from the beginning of the school year, it will be impossible for me to compare their progress the past year with the preceding years ; yet our schools are in a prosperous condition at the present time, and I feel justified in saying that great progress has been made in our schools during the past year, the praise for which belongs entirely to our excellent teachers.

In most of our schools, the copy books have been very neatly kept, and many cases of marked improvement have been noted.

Letter-writing has been encouraged and practised to some extent. This practice would be of advantage in every school.

It is to be regretted that many boys and girls leave common schools, who have not the faintest idea of good letter-writing. Good ideas of the art have been developed during the past year in many of our schools. In many cases the children have contributed excellent work.

Reading has received more attention as a general thing, and, as a result, we have noticed quite a marked improvement in this direction.

Much time is given to teaching arithmetic in all of our schools. In most cases the teachers have been successful.

The children like to draw, and drawing has been a success in some of our schools.

The irregular attendance of certain scholars, demands our most serious attention. In one of our schools, the attendance of many pupils has been so irregular as to greatly interfere with its success. The correction of this evil lies almost entirely within the power of the parents, and it is their duty to insist that their children shall attend school every day, unless prevented by sickness. The State authorities have long recognized this fact in the law making attendance at school compulsory for twenty weeks in the year.* The law means that all children between eight and fourteen years of age (health permitting) shall attend school six hours a day for twenty weeks—that for twenty weeks, every school day a scholar is not in school six hours, the law is broken; that for every such offence, the parent or guardian is liable to a fine of twenty dollars or less.

The devised mode of ventilation for our schools has added greatly to the comfort and health of both pupils and teachers in many of our school rooms.

The school year has been thirty weeks. During the year, a change of teachers has been made at the North, South and Grammar.

At the beginning of the school year, Miss Ida C. Taft, because of ill-health, could not take charge of the North school.

This devolved the unpleasant task of trying to find a candidate who would fill the vacancy. The Committee were fortunate in securing the services of Miss Annie N. Gaskill. Miss Gaskill, because of ill-health, resigned, after teaching a few weeks, and Miss Mary L. Aldrich finished the term. Both were very able teachers. Accordingly, Miss Ada C. Taft did not resume work at the North school until the beginning of the fall term. She had charge of this school the remainder of the year. Miss Taft is a teacher of broad experience, and the school is in excellent condition.

Mr. Wendel Williams, teacher of the Grammar, resigned at the end of the spring term. Mr. Williams was thorough in his work,

* By Chap. 384 Acts of 1890, 30 weeks, instead of 20, have been fixed as the limit for compulsory attendance.

and trained his pupils to habits of self-reasoning. Miss Florence H. Towne, a graduate of Worcester Normal School, was engaged, and taught the fall term. She was enthusiastic in her work, but at the close of the term she resigned. This devolved another unpleasant task of trying to find a candidate who would fill the vacancy. Mr. Eben Williams, a graduate of Dartmouth College, was engaged to teach the winter term of the Grammar. Mr. Williams taught but a few weeks, when he tendered his resignation to accept a better position in another town. Mr. Williams possessed the happy faculty of attracting his pupils and gaining their confidence.

Mr. W. Edward Dixon, a student at Philip's (Exeter) Academy, was engaged to teach the remainder of the winter term of the Grammar. Mr. Dixon's incentive to work was strong, and he maintained good discipline.

At the South school, Miss Bessie Wilcox, who had been a conscientious and faithful teacher in the discharge of her duties, resigned at the close of the spring term. The Committee were fortunate in securing Mrs. Mary A. Barrows, a former teacher at that school. Mrs. Barrows had charge of the school during the remainder of the school year. She is a good disciplinarian, and manifests much energy and interest in all her school work.

The Primary school was in charge of Miss Mary E. Dudley during the entire year. Miss Dudley has taught this school for a number of years, with a marked degree of fidelity. She has a happy faculty of attracting her pupils. Under this most excellent teacher great progress has been made, and the school is at present a model school in every respect.

The East school was in charge of Mr. Lyman Cook during the year. He was thorough in his work, and trained his pupils to habits of self-reasoning and careful thought.

The West school was taught during the year by Miss Nancy C. Wood. Miss Wood's incentive to work was strong, and this school has made excellent progress. She has given good satisfaction to all interested in the school.

The Albeeville school was taught during the year by Miss Bertha F. Albee. Although the school is small, Miss Albee has been deeply interested in her work and has given good satisfaction.

HIGH SCHOOL.

MR. WILLIAM L. RICKETTS, TEACHER.

This school being in session, a full report cannot be given in connection with it at this time. There were twenty-four scholars in the fall term. Mr. Ricketts is a graduate of Tuft's College, but had had no experience in teaching. He has labored faithfully and has accomplished good work. The character of a High school should be such that the pupils should govern themselves in such a

way as to require but little discipline from the teacher. The scholars should take pride and have respect enough for themselves and for their teacher to discipline themselves to refrain from whispering and from the many minor things which serve to disturb a school, and which are a source of great annoyance, weariness and irritation to the teacher.

ROLL OF HONOR.

NAMES OF SCHOLARS NEITHER ABSENT NOR TARDY.

One Term.

HIGH SCHOOL.—Mary F. Staples, Dora A. Davenport, Clarence A. Taft, Walter F. Towne, Florence Snow, Abigail Taft, Arthur V. Pond, Alice T. Quigley, Harry Dixon, Hattie F. Allbee

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Ernest L. Tucker, Walter F. Towne, Wylie R. Stenson, Clara W. Pond, Etta H. Stenson, Nathan F. Towne, Bessie F. Cook, Grace G. Nutter, Lily B. Wheeler, Minnie L. Wood, Ina N. Taft, Arthur V. Pond, Harry Dixon, Mabel I. Wheeler, Florence E. Snow, Edward L. Cook, Minnie C. Allen, Sabry N. Moores, Nettie E. Nutter, Clair W. Freeman.

PRIMARY SCHOOL.—Ella Brown, Edward Driscoll, Sabry N. Moores, Harry Taft, Jesse Wheeler, Nathan F. Towne, Lillian Freeman, Edward L. Cook, Edith I. Gaskill, A. Geraldine Taft, Paul F. Wheeler, Nellie Wheeler, Christine A. Wood, Charles Gardner.

NORTH SCHOOL.—Annie Byrne, Sarah Byrne, Arthur Beal, Mary Byrne, Richard Odum, Willie Mahaney.

SOUTH SCHOOL.—Ada A. Fletcher, Charles C. Daniels, Willie Bebo, Leon D. Moore, Bennie I. Barrows.

EAST SCHOOL.—Bertha V. Horton, Arthur Sprague, John D. Bates.

WEST SCHOOL.—Mary L. Wood, Richard E. Hazard, Cyril E. Brooks, Caroline W. Lapham.

ALBEEVILLE SCHOOL.—Hattie F. Albee, Eldora M. Freeman, Estine Taft, Caroline W. Freeman.

Two Terms.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Clarence H. Moores.

PRIMARY SCHOOL.—William Driscoll, Oliver G. Moores.

NORTH SCHOOL.—Ida Darling, Rosie Quigley.

SOUTH SCHOOL.—John Daniels, Florence Barrows.

EAST SCHOOL.—Bertha L. Sprague, Norman Cook, Charles Cook.
 ALBEEVILLE SCHOOL.—William H. Gabry.

One Year.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Jeremiah B. Driscoll.

PRIMARY SCHOOL.—Fred A. Snow.

SOUTH SCHOOL.—Ida M. Barrows, Raymond Barrows.

EAST SCHOOL.—Cora Munger.

WEST SCHOOL.—Caroline S. Wood.

SCHOOL SUPERVISION.

Now, everyone knows that the best schools in the state are under superintend nts, and that the old school committee, go-as-you-please method of running schools is as much out of vogue as is running large shoe factories or mills without skilled superintendence. The school is the superintendent's proper field of labor. No manufacturer, no merchant, no man employing labor, thinks of leaving it day after day without oversight and direction. The more important the work, the more careful and thorough the supervision; that experience has taught the business man he must employ or exercise himself. Certainly, the training of the mind is as important as manufacturing, and the labor of our teachers in educating the child should be watched as carefully as that of the weaver at his loom. Such oversight does not imply suspected unfaithfulness in the teacher.

No doubt the great mass of teachers labor with a faithfulness and a conscientious endeavor to do their whole duty, unequalled in any other walk in life. But experience shows that the best meaning teachers waste precious hours of the children's time in useless work, and fail to employ the best methods for school work.

The true work of the superintendent, is to map out work in a course of studies, and then to see that each teacher interprets the course, and works it out by proper methods to correct results. No school should go through the week without his presence and advice.

The Committee ask that the town settle, in a definite way the question of school supervision. It will be exceedingly difficult to secure the services of a suitable person for the customary salary.

Respectfully submitted,

LYMAN COOK, Of the Board.

FRANK H. WOOD,	} School
EDWARD DIXON,	
LYMAN COOK,	

Mendon, Feb. 14, 1891.

SCHOOLS.	TEACHERS.	Terms.	No. of Scholars.	Average Membership.	Average Attendance.	Per cent. of Attendance.	No. of Scholars under five years of age.	No. of Scholars over 15 years of age.	No. of Scholars between 8 and 14 years of age.	Wages of Teachers per month.
HIGH.	William L. Ricketts,	1	24	23 $\frac{3}{4}$	23	96		6	6	€60
	"	2								
GRAMMAR.	Wendel Williams,	1	27	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	25.6	97		4	12	48
	Florence H. Towne,	2	33	30.8	29.2	94		1	25	32
	Eben Williams, W. E. Dixon,	3	33	21.7	20.2	93		2	25	32
PRIMARY,	Mary E. Dudley,	1	39	37.3	35.8	96			22	
	"	2	30	28.6	27.8	97	1		10	32
	"	3	32	27.7	23 $\frac{3}{4}$	85			13	
NORTH.	A. W. Gaskill, M. L. Aldrich,	1	25	23.2	19.9	85			17	32
	Ada C. Taft,	2	22	21.6	20.9	96			16	
	"	3	24	23	20.6	89			19	32
SOUTH.	Bessie Wilcox,	1	11	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	8.81	90			10	24
	Mary A. Barrows,	2	13	12.8	12.6	98			8	24
	"	3	13	13	12.5	95			9	28
EAST.	Lyman Cook,	1	26	22.6	18.1	85		1	17	
	"	2	20	19.9	18.4	93			11	32
	"	3	21	20.7	17.2	83		1	11	
WEST.	Nancy C. Wood,	1	10	9.2	8.5	92	1		6	24
	"	2	11	9.7	8.3	85	2			
	"	3	9	8.4	7.7	91	1			
ALBEEVILLE.	Bertha F. Albee,	1	9	8.1	7.6	93			4	
	"	2	8	5.8	5.2	89			2	24
	"	3	6	4.5	3.6	78			1	

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

I have examined the accounts of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Overseers of the Poor, Superintendent of Streets, Town Clerk, School Committee, and Collector of Taxes, of the town of Mendon, and that of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Taft Public Library, for the past municipal year, and find them correctly kept, and with proper vouchers.

JULIUS A. GEORGE, Auditor.

Mendon, February 17th, 1891.

TOWN WARRANT.

WORCESTER SS.—To the Constable of the Town of Mendon,
in the County of Worcester, GREETING :

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Mendon qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall, in said Mendon, on Monday, the second day of March, next, punctually at ten o'clock, A. M., to act on the following articles viz :—

Article 1. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.

Article 2. To hear the reports of the several town officers and committees, and act thereon.

Article 3. To chose all necessary town officers for the year ensuing.

Article 4. To raise such sums of money as are necessary to defray town charges, and make appropriations of the same.

Article 5. To determine the manner of repairing the roads and bridges in said town the year ensuing.

Article 6. To see if the town will require the School Committee annually to appoint a Superintendent of Schools, and if so, raise and appropriate money for his salary.

Article 7. To see if the town will vote to accept the list of jurors reported by the Selectmen, or make any alternations in the same.

Article 8. To see what measures, if any, the town will adopt to secure the speedy collection of taxes.

Article 9. To see if the town will vote to continue the High School.

Article 10. To see if the town will authorize the Treasurer to hire money to pay current expenses for the municipal year commencing March 2d, 1891, in anticipation of the collection of the taxes.

Article 11. To bring in their ballots "Yes" or "No" in answer to the question, "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?"

Article 12. To see if the town will continue communication by telephone with Milford, as security against destruction by fire, or act in relation thereto.

Article 13. To see what amount of money, if any, the town will vote to raise and appropriate for conveying pupils to and from the public schools, the same to be expended by the School Committee in their discretion.

Article 14. To see what special amount, if any, the town will vote to appropriate for the repair of the road leading from the residence of David Adams past the residence of Francis F. Taft to the Hopedale line, or take any other action in regard to making special repairs on said road or any part thereof.

Article 15. To see if the town will determine what shall be the length of the school year.

Article 16. To see what amount, if any, the town will raise and appropriate for the purchase of school apparatus.

Article 17. To see if the town will accept the provisions of Chapter 431 of the Acts of 1888, relating to the employment of a superintendent of schools, and appropriate money therefor.

Article 18. To see what action, if any, the town will take towards procuring a safe or safes.

Article 19. To see what portion of its records, if any, the town will vote to have copied or made more complete.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the following places in said town, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting, viz: At the post-office, and on the door of the schoolhouse in Albeeville, and at the post-office at South Milford.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Selectmen or Town Clerk, before the time of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands at Mendon, this seventeenth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one.

GUSTAVUS B. WILLIAMS,	} Selectmen of Mendon.
ALBERT W. GASKILL,	
LIBERTY FREEMAN,	

A true copy. Attest:—

Constable of Mendon.

